

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of John Scalf W9280¹

Edy

fn110NC

Transcribed by Will Graves

1/9/11

[Methodology: Spelling, punctuation and/or grammar have been corrected in some instances for ease of reading and to facilitate searches of the database. Also, the handwriting of the original scribes often lends itself to varying interpretations. Users of this database are urged to view the original and to make their own decision as to how to decipher what the original scribe actually wrote. Blanks appearing in the transcripts reflect blanks in the original. Folks are free to make non-commercial use this transcript in any manner they may see fit, but please extend the courtesy of acknowledging the transcriber—besides, if it turns out the transcript contains mistakes, the resulting embarrassment will fall on the transcriber. I use speech recognition software to make all my transcriptions. Such software misinterprets my southern accent with unfortunate regularity and my poor proofreading fails to catch all misinterpretations. I welcome and encourage folks to call those and any other errors to my attention.]

[fn p. 15]

State of Tennessee Hawkins County: On this 11th day of July 1837 personally appeared John Scalf before John Mitchell a Justice of the peace for said County aforesaid aged 76 years who being first duly sworn according to law doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the provision of an act of Congress passed the 7th of June 1832. That he enlisted in the Army of the United States for the term of three years in 1777 sometime in May in Captain Gregory's Company in the 10th Regiment of the North Carolina [line] in Johnson County [sic, Johnston County] the name of the Colonel I cannot now name. We marched from said State through Virginia and Maryland into Pennsylvania to Philadelphia under the command of General Nash [Francis Nash] we lay some time there and from thence were marched to Trenton we lay there a while then joined the main Army commanded by General Washington in the neighborhood of Philadelphia. From there we marched on to a Creek called Brandywine where we had a battle with the enemy. After the battle we marched to a place called Chester and from there to Philadelphia from there marched across the River I think called Schuylkill [River] and encamped. We then recrossed the River again and marched to a place called the Yellow Springs from there we marched to a place called Warwick furnace and directly after engage the enemy again at Jermantown [Germantown] where General Nash was killed. After the battle we retreated some distance and encamped on a Creek. After moving to different places which I cannot now name we took up winter quarters at a place called Valley Forge where we staid all winter. In the spring of 1778 we were again put in motion we crossed the Delaware [River] and went into Jerseys and encamped at a place called Hopeville. From there we marched to Kingston from there to Cranbury sometime in June 1778 from there after various movements in Jerseys we engaged with the enemy again at Monmouth, from the battle we marched to a place called the White Plains from there we marched in the fall 1778 to a place called Middlebrook in Jersey where we encamped again for winter, in the spring of 1779 we again commenced active operations the ensuing summer we did but little more than going out in different detachments to prevent the enemy from supplying their wants by foraging in the Country sometime in the fall of 1779 in one of those detachments under General Green [sic, Nathanael Greene] I was badly

¹ BLWt67702-160-55

wounded in my leg having the bones badly shattered by a musket ball. I lay all winter under a physician in the Country by the name of Brimson and in the spring by wounds still continued running in consequence of the shattered bones coming out at my ankle. I was examined and thought not fit for service sometime in the summer I was permitted to go home if I could [indecipherable word] to my father and scuffled on as well as I could until I met my father and got home in the fall of 1780 after being gone upwards of three years and I never was out anymore. I was very young when I enlisted. I was also inexperienced with the regulations of an Army being unacquainted with the Country through which I marched my mind harassed by cold and hunger and owing to the great lapse of time since I performed the duty it is likely I have committed some areas though not intentionally. One thing I know I performed the duty of a soldier for the space of time set forth in my declaration though I may not have given a correct account of the particular dates and occurrences of my service. This declarant states his moving so frequently since he knew the law was passed for his benefit residing so small a time in one place endeavoring to keep with his children (which is 9 boys and 7 girls) has prevented him from sooner applying for his pension – But now being very old and helpless is settled in the foregoing County and State and in great need he hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present and declares his name is not on the pension roll of any agency of any state. Sworn to and subscribed the year and date before mentioned before me.

S/ John Mitchell, JP

S/ John Scaf, J his mark

[fn p. 33]

State of Tennessee Hawkins County: On this 28th day of September 1837 personally appeared John Scaf before me John Mitchell a Justice of the peace for said County and being first duly sworn, deposeth and saith in addition to his former declaration now in file in J L Edwards Office Commissioner of Revolutionary Claims, that on further study and reflection he believes he served in the 10th North Carolina Regiment upwards of three years and that Regiment was commanded by Colonel Shepard & further states that owing to his advanced age and loss of memory he was unable when he made out his said declaration to state the name of his Colonel or Regiment, & further states that he did serve upwards of 3 years, and that he belonged to the said 10th Regiment commanded by Colonel Shepard as above stated.

Sworn to and subscribed before me the day and year above mentioned.

S/ John Mitchell, JP

S/ John Scaf, X his mark

State of Tennessee Hawkins County: On this 30th day of September 1837 personally appeared Thomas Pratt² before me John Mitchell a Justice of the peace for said County and after being duly sworn deposeth & saith that he was a revolutionary soldier that he belonged to the 10th Regiment of North Carolina and that said Regiment was commanded by Colonel Shepard that he was well acquainted with John Scaf the above named declarant and that he is now acquainted with him, that he is the identical John Scaf that belonged to the 10th Regiment of North Carolina Commanded by Colonel Shepard. The said Thomas Pratt further states that he is placed on the pension roll and is drawing a pension from the Agency at Knoxville under the management of Mr. Dix Alexander of Rogersville in Hawkins County.

S/ Thomas Pratt, X his mark

² [Thomas Pratt W1075](#)

[fn p. 78]

State of North Carolina Secretary of State's Office

I William Hill Secretary of State in and for the State aforesaid, do certify that it appears from the muster rolls of the Continental line of this State in the revolutionary war, that John Scalf a Corporal in Captain Gregory's Company of the 10th Regiment enlisted on the 30th day of May 1777 for 3 years, that he was a private in June 1778. That on the 21st day of April 1784, a Warrant for bounty land, for 3 years and 3 months service was issued to him as having served the said tour of 3 years and 3 months, which warrant was issued on the certificate of a field officer.

Given under my hand and seal (having no seal of office) at Office in Raleigh this 10th day of June A.D. 1837

S/ Wm Hill,

[fn p. 28]

State of Tennessee Hawkins County: On this 5 day of July in the year 1839 personally appeared before me Robert Rogers Justice of the peace for Hawkins County aforesaid Anthony Hall and the said Anthony Hall³ being first duly sworn deposed & saith, that he resides in the County of Perry and State of Kentucky, that he is now nearly seventy-five years of age, that the insistence of his old friend and brother soldier, John Scalf of Hawkins County, he has visited said County. That this affiant enlisted in the County of Halifax in the State of Virginia in the spring of the year 1779 in the 7th Virginia Regiment commanded by Colonel Campbell, he thinks his Captain's name was Bayer, this affiant was at the siege of Charleston and was taken prisoner there by the British but after the capitulation was signed on the part of General Lincoln, and General Clinton this affiant was exchanged and he was afterwards in the Battle of Guilford and at the siege and surrender of Lord Cornwallis at Little York in Virginia. This affiant is now on the Pension roll of the United States at the Lexington agency in Kentucky at the rate of \$8 per month and refers to his declaration for a more particular account of his Services, on file in the War Department.

Being called upon to state whether John Scalf served in the war of the Revolution this affiant solemnly swear avers, that he served with the said Scalf in the following manner to which He first became acquainted with said Scalf sometime previous to the battle of Guilford, and the said Scalf was in said battle with this affiant, and said Scalf was shot in the leg in said battle, this affiant examined the wound after the battle – this affiant was not in any other engagement with the said Scalf, but having occasionally seen him both before and after the said battle in which he was wounded, he is well satisfied and convinced that the said Scalf served out the full periods of his term which as well as he now recollects about 3 years or perhaps more. He further more states that he has been with the said Scalf for the last 2 weeks and has seen the said Scalf's pension certificate dated the 3rd day of April 1838 & numbered 31, 377 – and he is confident he is the identical John Scalf with whom he served as before stated. He the affiant has been informed that the reason said Scalf was suspended was because it has been suggested that the said Scalf was too young, at the time he states he served. This affiant states that it was not unusual for boys, not more than 14 years and scarcely that, to be served in the Army, Even General Jackson himself when in the service, and he served in South Carolina – was not more than 14 years of age – and said Scalf is older than General Jackson and about one year older than this affiant, and this affiant declares solemnly that he verily believes that whoever made the above suggestion done great injustice to the said Scalf, and this affiant has been induced to come forward & make the above statement solely influenced by a [indecipherable word] of Justice out

³ FPA theW1764 BLWt26425-160-55

regard to truth, and a [indecipherable word] desire to save from unmerited persecution and old brother Soldier who well deserves the pittance bestowed upon him by a generous and upright Government.

Sworn to & subscribed before me the day & year above written

S/ Robert Rogers, JP

S/ Anthony Hall, X his mark

[fn p. 12: On July 29, 1848, in Claiborne County Tennessee, Edy Scalf, 80, made oath for a widow's pension under the 1838 and 1848 acts stating that she is the widow of John Scalf; that she married him in Edgecombe County North Carolina on the 15th day of February 1787; that her oldest child Nancy was born March the 22nd 1788 and Polly was born April the 29th, 1789; that her husband died March 10th, 1848 in Green County Tennessee and that she remains his widow.]

[fn p. 20: on March 4, 1857 in Knox County Kentucky, Edy Scalf, filed a declaration claiming her bounty land entitlement stating she is the widow of John Scalf that she married him in February 17__ by Wm Hyman, a justice of the peace, in Edgecombe County North Carolina; that her name prior to her marriage was Edy Carlisle; that her husband died in Greene County Tennessee on or about the 10th day of March 1848.]

[fn p. 5: Own July 17, 1845, in Hawkins County Tennessee, John Scalf Junior, 54, filed an affidavit stating he is the son of John Scalf, a pensioner of the United States for his service in the revolution whose pension was suspended in 1838; that he was well acquainted with his grandfather, Lewis Scalf, in the County of Wilkes North Carolina; that Lewis Scalf moved to Georgia where deponent understands he died at an advanced age being over 100 years old; deponent states that he and his wife have had 14 children and now have 4 grandchildren; that he deponent understands from information obtained from his parents that he is 54 years old; that he has 2 older sisters Nancy and Polly; that his parents had 16 children and now have 109 grandchildren and 40 great grandchildren and one great grandchild is old enough to have children being at least 20 years old; that the family of his father is greatly scattered and may well now include more grandchildren and great-grandchildren than he lists; that from his appearance he believes his father must be at least 85 years old; "Deponent further states that he now makes this affidavit at the request of his father, in consequence of a charge, said to exist against him that he was not old enough to have performed any military service in the war of the revolution, and that he personated [sic, impersonated] his father and thereby fraudulently obtained a Pension, Deponent is certain, that the last charge is false, from the fact that he was well acquainted with his Grandfather, Lewis Scalf and father of the aforesaid John Scalf Senior by which name, his father has always been known. As to the 1st charge, Deponent knows nothing of his father's age, further than what he has stated, but has always understood from his earliest recollection that his father was a soldier in the war of the Revolution and that he received several wounds in said war. From information, he believes that said charges were made by his (deponents) old enemies, the Gosts or Goses and Bushes of Russell County Virginia where Deponent once lived, and that they have, perhaps, persecuted his father, in order to wreak their vengeance on him (Deponent) and his wife Patsey Scalf, Deponent is lead to this conclusion from the fact that there was considerable law difficulties between himself and wife on the one side and Valentine Bush, the Brother-in-law of John Gose or Gost and relation of Stephen and Stuffley Gost all of the same County on the other side – that said Bush had slandered his, Deponent's wife, by saying she has

sworn a lie and that he could prove it, for which Deponent prosecuted said Bush for slander, which was found guilty and taxed with cost – that before the commencement of said suit, and during the prosecution thereof, and after its termination the Gose and Bush families on the one side & the Scalfs on the other were arrayed in bitter hostility against each other, and that they are unfriendly yet, all of which happened in Russell County Virginia, Deponent further states, that he knows of no record of his father's age."]

[fn p. 10: in a lengthy affidavit given by Patsey Scalf, wife of John Scalf, Jr., she names the children of the veteran and his wife as follows: Nancy Collins, Polly Trent, John Scalf, Junior, Britton Scalf, Dicy Williams, Nancy Collins, Berry Scalf, Ira Scalf, Lee Scalf, Peter Scalf, Lydia Panter, Robert Scalf, Lela Lockard, Jesse Scalf and to William Scalfs, both deceased; that Nancy had 5 children, Polly 11, John 14, Britton 19, Dicy 10, Betsey 1, Berry 8, Ira 7, Lee 7, Peter 4, Lydia 5, Robert 6, Lela 4, Jesse 8.]

[fn p.

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$80 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for 3 years service as a private in the North Carolina Continental line.]